Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

The RARS EXCITER

Worldwide Friendship through Amateur Radio

Issue 230 May, 1989 Repeater: W4DW/R 146.04/64 Mhz

Special Issue:

By-Laws Changes Proposed

All RARS members are urged to review the proposed Club By-Law changes, as contained in this issue of the EXCITER. This re-write reflects many hours of work, performed by Norm Plaks, KN4G, at the direction of the club's Board of Directors. The goal of this effort was to bring the club's charter more in tune with the current operation of the organization, and leads the way for our filing as a "Non-Profit" organization.

The proposed changes will be discussed at length, and voted upon at the May meeting.

If you can only make it to one RARS meeting a year, come to the May meeting and make your feelings known on **THE** most important aspect of the club: Our Bylaws.

(This printing constitutes official notice of proposed change, as per the exixting By-Laws.)

Hamfest Draws 3,000+

Preliminary results are in, and indicate that this years RARS HAMFEST was the biggest ever -- N4IQA reports total ticket sales at 3073 -- about 12% over last year!

The shindig started with the Pre-Hamfest Social, at 7:00 PM on Saturday. As usual, the YLs & XYLs of RARS (with some OM assistance) did a fantastic job of putting together a wide variety of good things to eat and drink . Over 300 attended the social!

Sunday morning saw vendor set-up & exams starting bright & early. At 7:30 the line for the exams ran "out of the building", and the isles were full of folks un-loading their vehicles! By noon, things were in full swing, & the place was jammed with shoppers.

If you missed the '89 RARS 'FEST, you missed a GREAT EVENT!

Editor: Vince Yakamavich, AA4MY - 220 Carriage Tr., Raleigh, NC 27614 847-8512

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society was held April 5, 1989 at the YMCA on Hillsborough Street. President Pete Thacher, N4HQZ, called the meeting to order and welcomed the 86 members and 6 guests.

Because Jim, N4BYO, was not at the Awards Banquet last month, he was presented a certificate of appreciation for his outstanding efforts as Training Director.

The Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society recognized our "outstanding service during the recent spates of inclement weather" in the form of a letter. This was given to the Secretary to file.

Public Service Edward Breeden, N4SSU, requested amateur help with the March of Dimes Walk-A-Thon. A four mile walk in RTP on April 22 is planned. Twelve operators are needed. In addition, our help is needed with a local bike club, monitoring races in May - Sept.

KK4YP, Kirk, announced upcoming Novice/Tech / General classes starting April 20th, sponsored by the Triangle East Amateur Radio Assn. in Smithfield.

Bids were closed on W4MMD's ham equipment. The following has been sold: HW-12A to WA4MJF, the quad antenna to KM4BU, climbing belt to N4TQO, TS-140S to W3EPA, MFJ-949C to K4HF. The remainder of the equipment will be taken to the RARS Table at the Hamfest.

James, KA5IEC, spoke for the Homebrew SIG. They will hold a meeting next Wednesday at the home of KM4BU where they will set a specific agenda for the coming months. There is now a technical information exchange net of Saturday evenings following the RARS 2M net.

Training Director Jim, N4BYO, polled the group asking if they would like some form of formal training to upgrade their code speed above 5 WPM. The response was favorable and this will be investigated.

The May issue of the EXCITER will contain the rewrite of our By-Lays. Please read and come to the May meeting where we will discuss and vote on them. There will be no scheduled program for this meeting to accommodate discussions.

Steve, AB4EL, asked all who would like to participate in the Umstead Field Day site to contact him. He is planning to hold a meeting.

N4IQA, Tim, announced only 35 orders have been placed for the 2M power amp. One hundred are needed to qualify for the special price. See Tim soon if you would like to purchase one.

Edward, N4SSU, spoke for the UHF/VHF SIG with a report on the tower on the Dean Whitter Building. An agreement has been made to give us access without ownership. Pete recognized N4SSU and WA4PEN for their efforts to obtain use of the tower.

Hamfest Chairman, Dave, AB4LR, reported on the upcoming event. Today at 4:00 PM there was a meeting at the Fair Grounds. Everything is on track. Dave identified the committees who still need help.

The program for the evening was presented by Harry Greenburg, W2AC, who gave an informative talk on antennas.

There being no further business, the door prize was drawn and the meeting adjourned.

Sue Meyer Parks, WB4USX
RARS Secretary

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RARS Congratulates:

Linda & Dr. Bob (NA4G) Keys on the birth of their daughter, Kerri Anne on April 5th. Kerri came in at 8 lbs. 4 oz, after a 48 hour labor (arrrgh!), but we're happy to report mom & baby are doin well. Congrats to Linda & "Boat Anchor Bob!"

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Ditto to my own lovely XYL, **Joyce, WB7TXO.** She kept me on pins and needles right up to the hamfest. Our first daughter, Kristen Joy, was born on Saturday, April 15 at 2 PM. Kristen came in at 9 lbs. 13 oz, after a "brief" 8 hour labor. We're both glad it's over!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!

RARS would like to welcome sixteen (16!!) new members this month:

Ray Barnhouse of Raleigh, who earned a Tech license at the recent RARS class.

Oscar Biddy, N4VED, who upgraded from General to EXTRA at the Hamfest!

David Biggers, KX4F, of Raleigh.

Mike Gingell, who also earned a Tech license at the recent class.

Guy Hill, KC4JFO, who upgraded to Tech at the 'fest.

Bill Lindsay, N4GTQ of Cary.

Ann McKenzie, N4UNW, who earned her Tech at the previous class ...

Joseph McNellis of Raleigh, currently awaiting arrival of his Tech class license.

Charles D. Payne, a recent RARS grad, awaiting an N4 call...

Sonny Perkins, N4SOU, of Goldsboro — always good do see folks from out that way!

John Peterson, KI4VZ, of Raleigh. Stephen Phillips, KI3Q, from Chapel Hill.

Alan Pitegoff, N4SWA, of Raleigh, and a new EXTRA at the 'fest!

Bob Rinn, also a RARS grad in North Raleigh, awaiting an N4 call.

Ms. Uzma Siddiqi, N4UNX, Raleigh, of fox-hunting fame. (Uzma is a gnat's eye away from her MSEE degree at State...), &

Rick Yost, a recent RARS grad of Raleigh, also awaiting a Tech call.

As always, we extend a hearty "WELCOME!" to you new members, and hope that you will choose to become "radio-active" and particpate in the club's many activities and events. The best way we know to become aquainted with your fellow RARS members is to come up on 146.04/64 and join in on the nightly net.

With these fine additions to our roster, RARS is now 313 members strong!

Again, WELCOME!!

HAMFEST THANKS

As was stated in the cover article, the Hamfest was a smashing success. Chairman Dave Williams, AB4LR, would like to thank ALL who participated, especially those committee chair-persons, for working so hard to make this year's fest as successful as it was:

Pre-Registration (Asst. Chairman): **Rollin, NF4P**
Security: **Ronnie, WA4MJF**
Talk-In: **Chris, KC4GRV**
Set-Up / Table Assignments: **Andy, WK2F**
Clean Up: **Steve, AB4EL**
Hospitality: **Anita, KC4AQB**
Vendor / Grounds Liason: **Chuck, K4HF**
Tickets: **Al, K4GOE**
Exams: **Vince, AA4MY**
CW Contest: **Bob, K4MC**
Homebrew Contest: **Johnnie, WA9SZL**
Printing of Tickets / Fliers: **Tom, N4IZE**
Treasurer: **Tim, N4IQA**
Advisors: **Bruce, WA9NEW**
Pete, N4HQZ

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A job ! well ! well ! well ! done for **Anita, KC4AQB** and her staff for the excellent job they did on arranging the Hospitality party that was held on Saturday night. Nothing but great reviews were heard all night & the following day. No one left there hungry!

A special thank you to **Mr. Stu Meyer, W2GHK**, a long-standing RARS member who drove down from his home outside Washington DC and acted as emcee for the evening.

As always, it was a pleasure to see our **ARRL Roanoke Division Director, John Kanode, N4MM.**

Again, **thanks to ALL RARS members** for making this year's 'fest a huge success!

DaveWilliams, AB4LR

RALEIGH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY BY-LAWS

Proposed amendments based upon By-Laws, revised January 1981 with ammendments of December 1985.

LEGEND:

~~<Text to be deleted>~~
[Text to be added]
Unmodified text

We the members of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc, do hereby declare that the following rules and regulations, not inconsistent with the laws of the State of North Carolina and the Articles of Incorporation of this Society, shall be our governing law.

Section **[1 - OBJECTIVE**

The primary objectives of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society are education and public service. Education shall generally be in radio communication techniques and obtaining of radio amateur licenses. Public service is the providing of radio communications in times of disaster, emergency and civic need.]

Section ~~<1>~~**[2]** - MEMBERSHIP

Sixty percent (60%) of the entire membership of the Society shall be "FULL" members. All persons interested in amateur radio shall be eligible to apply for membership. (A person interested in amateur radio is defined as an individual interested in radio technique, good fellowship, and civic activity solely without pecuniary interest.) Duly licensed amateurs holding one of the following classes of licenses: Extra, Advanced, General, Technician, and Novice, may only apply for FULL membership in the Society. Persons that are not licensed may only apply for ASSOCIATE membership. ~~<As stipulated in the Articles of Incorporation>~~, Only FULL members shall have the right to ~~<hold office in the Society (if eighteen years of age or older), or the right to>~~ vote at meetings of the Society on matters of business or policy.

Membership ~~applications~~ shall be accepted **[on application]** ~~<by the membership for consideration and approval before membership>~~ to the Society ~~<is granted. New members,>~~ and upon payment of dues. ~~<, shall be issued a membership card by the Treasurer>.~~

~~<Former members of the Wake County Amateur Radio Association, Inc. shall be automatically eligible for the class of membership appropriate to the class of license held, and shall be granted membership upon payment of dues, without formal application to the membership committee.>~~

[Special Life Membership may be awarded, upon recommendation by the Board and by a majority vote by of the FULL members present at a regular meeting, to a member of the Society for special services performed for the Society and for Amateur Radio. A Special Life Member pays no dues and is entitled to all the privileges of Full membership.]

Honorary membership ~~<shall>~~ **[may]** be awarded upon recommendation by the Board~~<, to individuals>~~ **[and]** by a majority vote of the FULL members present at a regular meeting, **[to a non-member, of the Society for special services performed for the Society and for Amateur Radio]**. An honorary member pays no dues and is entitled to all the privileges of FULL membership except voting.

Section ~~<2>~~**[3]** - OFFICERS

The ~~<corporation>~~ **Society** shall have four officers which shall be named as follows: 1) President; 2) Vice President; 3) Secretary; 4) Treasurer. Each officer shall be eighteen (18) years of age or older and a "FULL" member of the Society. ~~<FULL members, as~~

~~defined in the Articles of Incorporation, shall be duly licensed amateurs of one of the following grades who are admitted to membership: Extra, Advanced, General, Technician, or Novice.>~~

Each candidate for office in the Society shall have been a member of the Society for a minimum period of one year prior to his **[or her]** election to office. ~~<or one of the initial incorporators of the Society. (Names of the initial incorporators appear in Section 12 of the Article of Incorporation.)>~~

~~<Exception - For all elections held in the year 1969, eligible candidates must have been either an incorporator or a Charter Member. (A Charter Member is defined as one who becomes a "FULL" member of the Society within ninety (90) days of the date of Incorporation.)>~~

a) Tenure of office - Staggered Elections

The term of office for all officers of the Society shall be for two (2) years except that the term of office for the President and Secretary in the first year of operation (1969) shall be one (1) year. (Thus elections for a new President and Secretary shall be conducted in the month of November 1969, and ~~<every two>~~ **[in the ODD years thereafter.])** ~~<(Odd year elections.)>~~

The Vice President and Treasurer shall be elected for two (2) year terms commencing in the second year of operation (1970) and for two (2) year terms at all succeeding elections. (Thus elections for the Vice President and the Treasurer, after the initial election in November, 1970, shall occur in November 1972, and in the EVEN years thereafter.)

It shall be possible for a Society officer to be nominated and elected to another office. For example, the Vice President might be nominated and elected to the office of President during the odd year elections. In this event, ~~<his>~~ **[the]** former office shall be declared vacant subsequent to ~~<his>~~ **[the]** election to ~~<his>~~ **[the]** new office, and a special election shall be held to fill the remaining term of ~~<his>~~ **[the]** former office.

b) Nomination and Election of Officers

Nominations for all offices in the Society shall be submitted to the membership at the first regularly constituted business meeting in the month of October in the year in which the elections fall due. All nominations will be noted in the official minutes of the Society by the Secretary. Elections by ~~<secret>~~ **[open]** ballot shall be held at the first regularly constituted business meeting in the Month of November following the nominations. The newly elected officers shall be invested with the rank of office at a meeting of membership in the month of December following, and shall assume the duties of office as of January 1 of the new year.

A majority of the FULL members present at a regular meeting shall be necessary to constitute a valid election of officers, subject to the provisions of Section 6.

In case of two candidates for the same office, that candidate receiving the largest total vote shall be declared the winner. In the case of three or more candidates for the same office, that candidate receiving a majority vote shall be declared the winner. If no one candidate receives a majority vote, a runoff election shall be conducted between the top two candidates, and the candidate receiving the largest total vote in the runoff election shall be declared the winner.

There shall be no restrictions as to the number of times (consecutively or otherwise) that a qualified member of the Society may hold the same or another office in the Society.

c) Actions to remove Officers

Any officer may be removed for just cause upon an affirmative vote for removal by 75% of the FULL voting membership in person **[or by proxy at a regular meeting. Proxies shall not exceed 50% of the full voting membership]**. The Secretary shall notify all FULL members of the Society by mail of the action to be considered prior to the meeting at which the vote is to be taken.

d) Duties of Officers

1) PRESIDENT - The President shall preside at all meeting of the society, and shall conduct the same

according to the rules adopted~~<. He shall>~~; enforce due observance of the ~~<corporate>~~ Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws; decide all questions of order; sign all official documents that are adopted by the society, and none other; and perform all customary duties pertaining to the office of President. ~~<He shall authorize all checks issued on the corporate accounts by the Treasure.>~~

2) VICE PRESIDENT - The Vice President shall assume all the duties of the President in the absence of the President, and shall, when so requested, aid the president in the performance of his **[or her]** duties. **[The Vice President shall be responsible for coordination of programs for regular meetings and all Society functions.]**

3) SECRETARY - The Secretary ~~<shall maintain a post office box in the name of the society. He>~~ shall maintain a neat and accurate written record of the proceedings ~~<(preferably typewritten)>~~ at all meeting of the Society (minute book) which shall be available for inspection at all times~~<. He shall>~~; sign the official minutes after each meeting~~<. He shall>~~; file and be responsible for answering all Society correspondence~~<. He shall>~~; maintain the ~~<corporate>~~ **[Society]** stationery and seal~~<. He shall>~~; bring pertinent correspondence to the attention of the Society at each meeting~~<. He shall>~~; distribute the minutes of the preceding meeting prior to the next meeting or read the minutes of the preceding meeting at the next meeting, and notify the entire membership of any special actions to be taken by the Society ~~<. He shall>~~; **[and]** generally perform all other appropriate duties which pertain to the secretary of the Society.

4) TREASURER - The Treasurer shall maintain the ~~<,corporate>~~ **[Society]** ledger in a neat and accurate fashion by the cash receipts method. It shall be open for inspection at all times. The Treasure shall be responsible for maintaining the ~~<corporate>~~ **[Society]** bank accounts in a ~~<local bank>~~ **[institution]** of sound financial structure and good reputation ~~<in the community. He shall>~~; retain and file all canceled checks of the ~~<corporation>~~ **[Society]**, all receipts of expenditures, and shall issue receipts for dues paid by members upon request. ~~<He>~~ **[The Treasurer]** shall give quarterly financial reports to the ~~<membership>~~ **[Board]** (or more often upon request) and shall~~<cause to be published>~~ **[present to the membership]** an annual financial statement at the end of each **[fiscal]** year. **[Prior to presentation of the annual financial statement the Society's financial records shall be examined by an ad hoc committee designated by the Board.]** ~~<He>~~ **[The Treasurer]** shall maintain**[, and publish twice yearly,]** a separate and accurate record of the entire membership of the Society with addresses, telephone numbers, grade of license, class of membership in the society, and whether a member of ARRL~~<. He shall>~~ **[; and]** be responsible for answering any inquiries or questionnaires from Federal or State taxing authorities ~~<(this is imperative in order to avoid suspension of our corporate charter)>~~. **[The Treasurer shall maintain all Society financial documents and records in an adequate and easily identified location, and shall keep the Board advised of it's status.]**

5) GENERAL - Each officer shall be responsible at the end of his **[or her]** term of office for turning over all records and items belonging to the Society to ~~<his>~~ **[the]** successor, and to indoctrinate ~~<his>~~ **[the]** successor as to the respective duties of ~~<his>~~ **[the]** office.

e) Vacancy in Office

Any vacancy occurring in one of the ~~<corporate>~~ **[Society]** offices more than six (6) months before the end of the term for that particular office shall be filled by special election.

If vacancy occurs in one or more of the ~~<corporate>~~ **[Society]** offices with six (6) months or less left in the term for that office, the vacancy shall be filled as follows:

1) If the vacancy occurs in the office of president then the vice-president, in addition to his **[or her]** own duties, shall assume the duties of that office.

~~<2) If the vacancy occurs in the office of vice-president then the president, in addition to his own duties, shall assume the duties of that office.>~~

~~<3) If the vacancy occurs in the office of secretary then the treasurer, in addition to his own duties, shall assume the duties of that office.>~~

~~<4) If the vacancy occurs in the office of the treasurer then the secretary, in addition to his own duties, shall assume the duties of that office.>~~

[2) If the vacancy occurs in the office of Vice-President, Secretary, or Treasurer the position shall be filled by appointment by the Board.]

f) Issuance of Checks - Saving Account

[A budget shall be prepared by the Treasurer, with input from the membership, and submitted to the Board at the beginning of each fiscal year, which shall start on July 1 and end on June 30. The budget shall identify by categories known and predictable disbursements of Society funds. After approval by the Board the budget shall be submitted to the membership at a regular meeting. Approval of the budget by the membership shall provide sole and sufficient authorization to the Treasurer to disburse Society funds in each of the categories up to it's approved maximum. During the fiscal year the Board may authorize reapportionment of funds among the categories. No Society checks may be issued that exceed the budget. The Treasurer is authorized to issue Society checks that are not expenditures, but are merely for handling of money such as the payment to the seller at a Society auction, or as a cash advance.]

~~<Disbursements of amounts greater than fifty dollars ($50.00) shall be subject to approval by a majority of the FULL membership present at the meeting at which the vote is taken.>~~

[Non-budgeted expenditures up to two hundred fifty dollars ($250.00) may be authorized by the Board. Non-budgeted expenditures in excess of two hundred fifty dollars shall require both Board and membership approval. Non-budgeted authorizations become part of the annual budget for the current year.]

All ~~<corporate>~~ **[Society]** funds exceeding that required for operating expenses shall be transferred from the ~~<corporate>~~ **[Society]** checking account to a savings account to be opened by the treasurer. **[All Society funds shall be held in accounts that are fully insured by an agency of the Federal Government.]**

[At the beginning of each fiscal year, or other times as necessary, the Board shall review and make appropriate changes to signature authority for all Society financial accounts.]

Section ~~<3>~~[4] - ~~<DIRECTORS>~~ BOARD OF DIRECTORS

~~<This corporation shall have no less than three directors.>~~ **[The Society shall have a board consisting of no less than seven directors.]**

~~<The initial board of directors, as listed in the Articles of Incorporation, consists of three members: Paul C. McLeod, Jr. Robert C. Workman, and William G. McDowell. The initial board shall serve until their successors are duly elected and qualified.>~~

The officers of the ~~<corporation>~~ **[Society]** shall serve as directors of the ~~<corporation>~~ **[Society]** and the election of ~~<corporate>~~ **[Society]** officers shall also constitute the election of those officers to the Board of Directors. In addition, the immediate past president shall serve as a member of the Board of Directors until replaced by his **[or her]** successor. Chairpersons of standing committees shall be elected to their chair and simultaneously to the Board in the same manner as the officers. Additional directors at large may be nominated and elected to the Board. ~~<in the same manner as the election of officers.>~~.

[The Board shall have broad powers to plan Society activities and to conduct Society business except for those items of business reserved for the FULL membership by the By-Laws of the Society. Decisions made by the Board, acting within it's authority, shall require concurrence of a majority of the board members present at a regular board meeting.]

Section ~~<4>~~[5] - DUES

~~<The annual dues payable to the society by FULL membership shall be fifteen dollars ($10.00). In the event that two (2) or more FULL members of the society should be related by blood or marriage and reside in the same household, dues shall be charged at the following rate; dues for the first member shall be fifteen dollars ($10.00) per annum; dues for each additional member (related by blood or marriage and residing in the same household) shall be five dollars ($5.00) per annum. The annual dues payable to the society by ASSOCIATE members shall be five dollars (5.00).>~~

[The annual dues payable to the Society shall be established by the Board and approved by the membership for all classes of membership.]

[Family membership shall be allowed for one-or-more additional members of a member. The family membership shall be limited to spouse, children, parents, brothers, and sisters whether-or-not they reside at the same address as the member.]

~~<New members, persons who did not hold membership during the previous year, shall pay; their dues in full upon admission to the society. Dues for all classes of membership in the society shall fall due on the first day in July of each year. FULL members joining the society at times other than July of any year shall pay dues at the rate of fifteen dollars ($10.00) per year or one dollar ($1.00) per month for the remainder of the membership period (i.e., until July of the following year), whichever is less. ASSOCIATE members joining the society at times other than July of any year shall pay dues at the rate of five dollars ($5.00) per year or fifty cents (50c) per month for the remainder of the membership period, whichever is less. New members, upon payment of dues, shall be issued a membership card by the Treasurer.>~~

~~<ASSOCIATE members who become eligible for "FULL" membership in the society shall be considered "FULL" members until the subsequent July 1 without additional payment of dues.>~~

~~<All dues must be paid within thirty (30) days (grace period) of their due date. Failure to pay dues within the grace period shall cause automatic suspension of the membership of the nonpaying member. However, payment within ninety (90) days of the due date shall cause said individual to be reinstated to membership without having to make new application. The membership committee shall have the authority to waive these time limitations in cases of absence from the city or state, illness or other hardship if in their discretion such action is merited. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to bring to the attention of the membership the fact that the due date has arrived.>~~

[Dues for existing members is payable at the start of each fiscal year. Members who haven't paid there dues by October 15, of the current fiscal year, shall be dropped from the roster. Reinstatement for the current fiscal year shall be made upon full payment of the dues.]

Section ~~<5>~~[6] - QUORUM TO CONDUCT BUSINESS

Notwithstanding other provisions of the By-Laws, ten percent (10%) of the FULL voting membership must be present at a regularly scheduled meeting to be considered a quorum.

Section ~~<6>~~[7] - AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS

Amendments to the By-Laws ~~<may>~~ **[shall]** be presented **[by the Board]** to the membership at any regularly constituted business meeting. The Secretary shall note the proposed amendment in the official minutes and notify the FULL membership by mail of the proposed action before the meeting at which the vote is to be taken.

The membership shall then vote on the proposed amendment at the next regularly constituted business meeting.

The majority vote in the affirmative of the FULL members present at a regular meeting shall be necessary to adopt the amendment, subject to the provisions of Section 6.

Section ~~<7>~~[8] - CONDUCT AT MEETINGS *

Robert's Rules of Order (Revised) shall govern proceedings of the Society in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Articles of Incorporation or the By-Laws of the Society.

Section ~~<8>~~[9] - COMMITTEES

~~<a) Executive and Advisory committee~~

~~The Executive and Advisory Committee shall consist of the Board of Directors and such members as they shall appoint to this committee. The Executive and Advisory Committee shall have broad powers to plan society activities and to conduct society business except for those items of business reserved for the FULL membership by the By-Laws of the society. All meetings of this committee shall be announced at regularly constituted business meetings of the society and in the society newsletter, and shall be open to any member.>~~

~~<b) Membership Committee~~

~~The treasurer will normally serve as the chairman of the Membership Committee. The duties of the membership committee shall include welcoming visitors to club meetings and other club functions, providing information to potential members and appropriate recognition of special needs of the membership. The Executive and Advisory Committees may appoint members to the membership committee in addition to, or in lieu of, the Treasurer.>~~

[The Board may designate committees or individuals to oversee or perform the various Society activities. The chairpersons of standing committees shall be subject to election by the FULL membership to their positions and simultaneously to the Board of directors.]

Section ~~<9>~~[10] - ARRL AFFILIATION

Affiliation with the American Radio Relay League, Inc., will be commenced as soon as the Society can qualify. Affiliation with the League shall continue perpetually as long as the Society meets and upholds the qualifications. However, League membership is not a requirement for membership in the Society.

Section ~~<10>~~[11] - POLITICAL AND PERSONAL ACTIVITIES FORBIDDEN

The Society as an organized body shall not participate or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

No part of the assets or income of the corporation shall be distributed to or inure to the benefit of any member, Director or Officer of the ~~<corporation>~~ [Society] or any private individual. However, reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered to or for the corporation affecting one or more of its purposes.

Section ~~<11>~~[12] - REMOVAL OF MEMBERS

Any member may be removed for just cause upon an affirmative vote for removal

by ~~<fifty-one percent (51%)>~~ [75%] of the FULL voting membership ~~<(in person - no proxies).>~~ **[in person or by proxy at a regular meeting. Proxies shall not exceed 50% of the full voting membership].** ~~<Petitions for removal shall be submitted at any regularly constituted business meeting or special meeting, noted in the minutes, and a vote on removal taken at the next regularly constituted business meeting.>~~ The secretary shall notify all FULL members of the Society by mail ~~<or telephone>~~ of the action to be considered prior to ~~<before>~~ the meeting at which the vote is to be taken.

Section ~~<12>~~[13] - ~~<SUGGESTED ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR REGULAR>~~ MEETINGS.

[a) Regular Meetings]

[Society meetings shall be conducted on a regular monthly basis, normally the first Wednesday of

each month, at a suitable site whose location had been previously communicated to the membership by means of the newsletter.]

~~<1) Meeting called to order by the President~~
~~2) Minutes of previous meeting read by the secretary, if requested.~~
~~3) Correspondence reported by secretary-Motions arising out of correspondence may be taken up immediately or held for new business.~~
~~4) Report of Executive and Advisory Committee, if any~~
~~5) Report of Treasurer if due or requested~~
~~6) Committee report~~
~~7) Unfinished business~~
~~8) New Business~~
~~9) Program, if there is one~~
~~10) Adjournment by the President>~~

[b) Board Meetings]

[Board meetings shall be conducted on a regular monthly basis, normally the third Wednesday of each month, at a suitable site whose location had been previously communicated to the membership by means of the newsletter. The Board meetings shall be open to all Society members.]

[Section 14 - POST OFFICE BOX]

[A post office box shall be maintained to act as the Society's official address and to receive it's mail.]

[Section 15 - Society Newsletter]

[A newsletter shall be published monthly and mailed to all members to provide them with Society and amateur radio news. The newsletter shall be considered an acceptable means for notifying the membership about forthcoming activities and actions.]

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Remember, these proposed changes to the club's bylaws will be discussed and voted upon at the May meeting: Wednesday, May 3rd. Be there!

K2VJ PORT - I2

(Part II)

Vince Luciani, K2VJ

(This is Part II in a 3-part series describing the K2VJ Italian caper. In Part I, we met Dr. Giorgio Beretta, I2VXJ (my host), and attended Italy's national DX conference where talk was followed by serious dining. We described the farm-country QTH of I2VXJ, and a sketch of radio contesting, Italian sytle.)

Having had enough hamming for a while, it was time to get serious about other odyssey objectives, the first of which was in nearby Milan, whose Piazza del Duomo was one of the most artistic (yet lesser known) churches in all of Italy. True there are beautiful structures all over the country, yet despite it being my first such eye feast, I continue to rank it as one of the most gorgeous.

peaking of gorgeous, you ought to be in Milan's business district at lunchtime when hundreds of those mini-skirted women dash around. Clones. All the same. Tall, thin, leggy, in high-heeled leather boots, with that special Italian look. Pal, this generation is far, far ahead.

A life's ambition was next realized by attending La Scala, Milan's famed opera house. But since I am less into opera than classics, how wonderful when Giorgio's generous parents managed tickets for one of Italy's finest symphonic orchestras. La Scala receives a full "10" on my Pleasure Scale. Fabulous. Don't bypass Milan if you go to Italy. Piazza del Dumo, La Scala, and downtown at lunchtime.

Rail trips came next, in spurts. Florence, Pisa, Rome, Venice, Turin, etc. All quite beautiful, quite extraordinary. The Coliseum in Rome turned me on with a strong feeling of "presence." Not to belittle anything anywhere in Italy, yet in truth so much in the way of exquisite art and artful structures exist there, I soon became culture saturated. It can happen. I recommend obtaining the guide services of an art student in order to better enjoy the country's sensational culture feast.

Although I had my mini 2 meter HT with me in most cities, I rarely used it. I was not so keen about it

because of the language barrier. Yes I tried, but most Italians were as reluctant to display their fractured English as I was my fractured Italian. Besides, Italy has 230 volt 50 Hz power, which put me out of commission when the HT batteries went down.

Interestingly, hams in Milan and in many areas of Italy work strictly simplex on 2 meters using 25-watt rigs and big beams for the coverage they need. They seem to form comfortable groups of friends, every now and then accepting a newcomer. If the others follow Giorgio, they have their 2 meter receivers on 24 hours per day. Giorgio never turned off his 2m rig the entire while I was there.

My "turisto" modus operandi was to spend several days sightseeing in another new city or two, then retreat to Giorgio's for recuperation via the home-cooked spaghetti, good vino, and some radio operating in the stated order of priority. The combination was sufficiently reliable as to always bet me back into the game.

One of my R&R's to the cascina Giorgio headed for Milan to visit headquarters of Italy's ARRL equivalent, the Associazione Radioamatori Italiana (ARI). After meeting with ARI's officers, I was made an honorary member.

Milan offered the exciting entertainment factor of seeing cars actually cruise down the sidewalks. Fact! Let me tell you about this.

It comes about from there seeming to be 1.78 cars for every Italian in Milan over the age of 12. So then, where can they park all those subcompacts every night? Why on the sidewalks, of course. And not merely one line deep, you understand. Huh-uh. Come nighttime, you see them parallel parked three cars deep: one line neatly in the street, and the other two on the sidewalk.

Fun-time comes in the morning. Those parked on the inside "lane" must scurry along the sidewalk until they find a gap in parked cars, such as at a corner, in order to get back on the street. Those in the middle row must await an opening either by departed cars from the inner lane, in which case they too then tool merrily along the sidewalk. Somehow, they seem to work it out amongst themselves probably by getting to know one another's commuting habits.

What happens when someone doesn't go to work that day? I don't know. Probably they move their car anyway. Otherwise, use your imagination as to what forms of Italian home justice might prevail form those who were bottled in all day!

Gas in Italy is about $3 per gallon, 75% of which is tax. And you can see it in their really fine roads, all of which are extremely well engineered, superbly graded, and smoothly paved. I'd have loved to have driven on those beautiful roads if I could have found one with no Italian drivers on it. What's the problem? The way they drive, forget it!

There is a "pecking order" faithfully adhered to by all Italian drivers, particularly in traffic when everyone normally tries to occupy the same space at the same time.

Giorgio explained the unwritten rule that the newer cars yield to older cars which want their cars crinkled up anyway, so the insurance company will pay for a new one. Smaller cars yield to larger cars, and no one argues with trucks, especially big old trucks.

Or, how about two lanes going in the same direction except everyone straddles the dividing line in the middle, almost in single file? Each driver dedicated to getting ahead of the car in the front.

Train travel in Italy is absolutely super: comfortable, speedy, reliable, calm, inexpensive, on-time, warm & friendly. Could you imagine an American in Italy, sitting directly across from a gorgeous Italian YL?? My opener was to whip off the earphones to my Sony Walkman, and let them listen to my New Age Music cassette. Conversation always followed ...

(end of part 2)

CORRECTION

Last month's EXCITER stated that at the Field Day event to be held at the QTH of KC4GRV would feature swimming in his pond.

In that this pond has been fished heavily for years, it is suspected the bottom of the pond may contain more than one clump of weeds, complete with tangles of broken lines, hooks & lures, just waiting for human feet...

Chris assures us that the pond is well stocked with fish — and fishing will definitely be permitted during Field Day. However, **NO SWIMMING WILL BE ALLOWED!!!**

HAM-RADIO GROUNDING

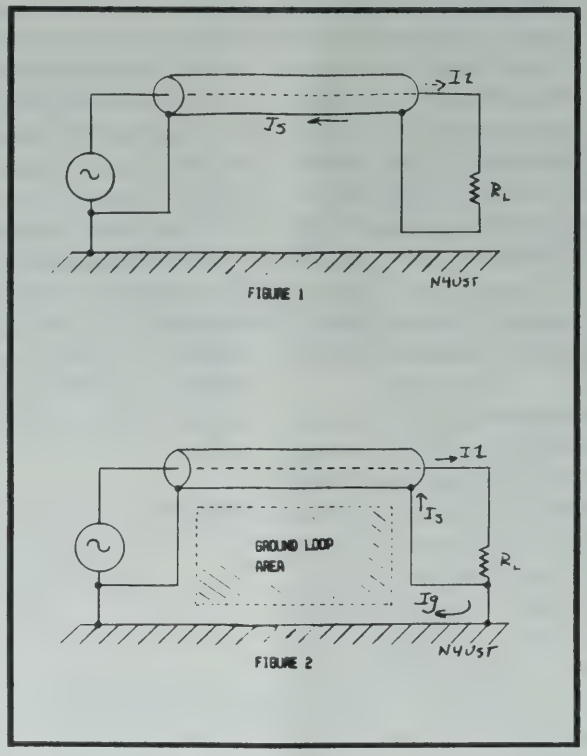
Rolf Andersson, K8SL

(Ed. Note: This is the second in a two part article on ham grounding by RARS member Rolf Andersson, K8SL. The first part dealt with antenna / tower grounding, and this, the conclusion, Rolf addresses safety inside the shack. Rolf brings both 35+ years as a ham, as well as professional expertize as an Electrical Engineer specializing in RFI / EMI / ESD problems.)

There are two major reasons for providing an efficient grounding of all ham-radio stations. Firstly, it should protect the operator from electrical shocks if any part of the equipment should fail and a cabinet becomes hot. Secondly, the ground system should reduce common-mode current loops and also provide a low impedance path for RF stray current. The life of the ham-radio operator depends on the first objective, but if the second goal is also achieved the problem with EMI (Electro-Magnetic Interference = television-, video recorder-, telephone- interference etc.) would be less of an headache for the operator.

Common mode current is defined as the difference in current between the outgoing and returning currents in a transmission line. A transmission line can be a feed line up to the antenna, a coax between a transceiver and an amplifier, or even a printed circuit board track between a driver and a receiver (analog or digital). Any transmission of information transmitted from one source to another has to be sent over a transmission line. If there was a perfectly balanced transmission line (Figure 1) the outgoing and the return current (Figure 1, I1 and Is) would be equal. Consequently, the two currents cancel out the field and there is no radiated emission from this transmission line.

However, in the real world there are no perfectly balanced transmission lines, and Figure 2 illustrates a more practical circuit. The outgoing current (I1) is split up in Is and Ig returning back to the source. This transmission line is not balanced and we have an additional current Ig, which is the common mode current. We have also created a so called ground loop (shaded area of Figure 2). Common mode current Ig is equal to I1 - Is, and it may take several parallel paths back to the source. The number of return paths depends on how many loops that are available to Ig.



On a printed circuit board, the signal return current normally follows the electronic power ground return bus back to the signal source. If a complete layer is assign for the power distribution (multi-layer board), the return current will, on the ground-layer, follow the route of the signal current. Therefore the height of the current loop will only be the distance between the two printed circuit board layers.

However, if power distribution is designed without a plan, but rather put "wherever there is a space", a multitude of return paths are available and unquestionably there will be noise problems — especially if the printed board contains sensitive circuits. An equipment setup like a ham-radio station will have the same problems as a printed circuit board (but in a larger scale) with possible ground loops and common mode

noise. If nothing has been done to control current paths, currents may return on power lines, telephone wires inside and outside the building, or on any other metal in the building such as plumbing (both at the ham's AND the neighbor's houses).

The ground-loop produced by the signal and return path(s) behaves as a loop antenna and the magnitude of the current plus the size of the antenna surface (height times length) determine the efficiency of the antenna - and consequently the field strength of the radiated emission..

How do we avoid common mode currents and ground loop problem? In order to minimize emi the equipment shall be grounded and connected up in such a way that we minimize loops which can cause strong radiated fields (keep efficiency of the "antenna" to a minimum) and prevent RF from entering unwanted conductors (such as AC power distribution, or your phone lines). The following are the important and necessary items to consider:

a. Establish a "single point ground" reference at the location of the equipment.

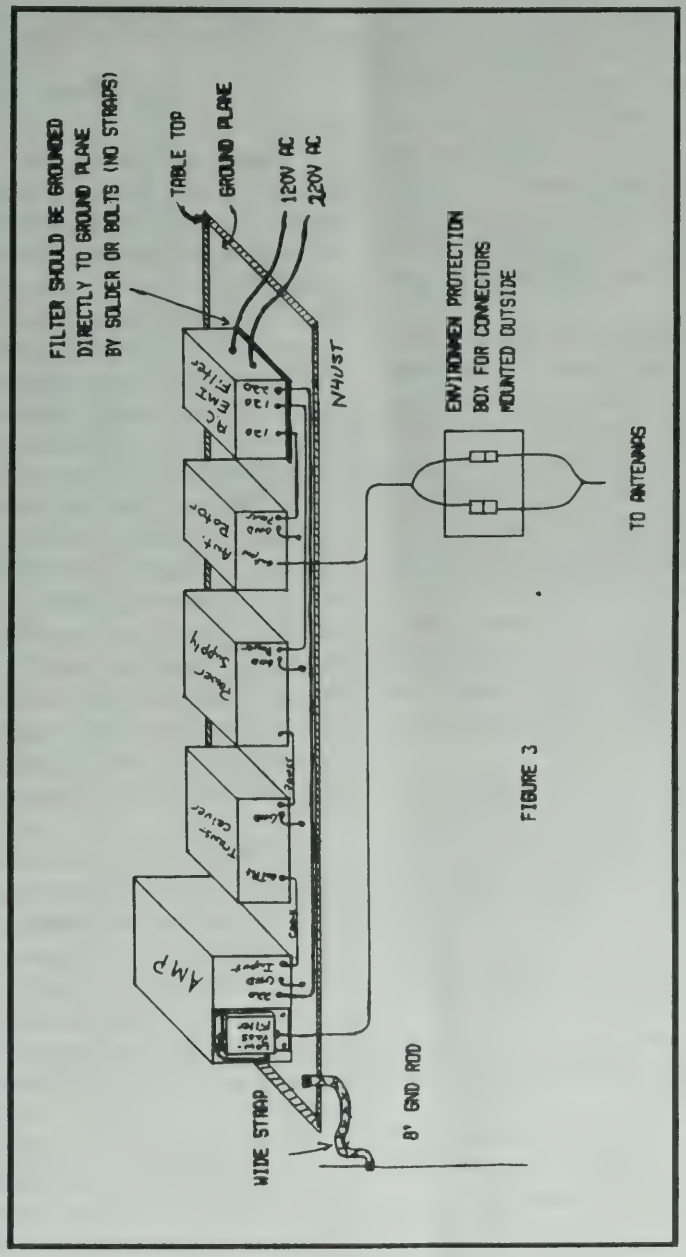


FIGURE 3

b. Bond all the different pieces of equipment to the reference ground via a low impedance ground conductor.

c. Use emi filters for the AC power to the equipment.

d. Use a low-pass filter (grounded directly to the ground reference).

e. Route all interconnections between equipment units directly on top of the reference ground in order to minimize the loop area.

The reference ground at the equipment set-up should be a ground plane which bonds the different pieces of equipment together with a low impedance connection, and provides a single point grounding to the ground rod(s). Figure 3 illustrates the way the author has arranged the equipment. The area on top of the desk below the equipment is covered with a couple of sheets of double sided printed circuit board (bought at a hamfest) which are soldered and taped together. The edges are also taped with copper-tape in order to bond the two sides together.

Equipment bonding to reference ground all the equipment are bonded to the reference ground plane with the shortest possible pieces of wide braided ground

straps. At one point the ground plane is connected with a wide braided strap to the ground rod located immediately outside the wall where the equipment is situated.

Commercial EMI Filters are placed in series with the shack's AC power (220v to the amplifier and 110v to the rest of the equipment). The filters are located on and bonded directly to the reference ground plane. To be safe, the filters are housed inside an aluminum box and the safety grounds of the equipment are bonded to the filters and the aluminum. The AC power safety wire from the circuit breaker box should not be tied to the equipment reference ground in order to avoid large current loops.

The standard low-pass filter which is located in series with the coax to the antenna (or antenna tuner) should be bonded to the back of the amplifier, transceiver, or on the reference ground plane. The best location for the filter is on the ground plane, as close as possible to the amplifier or transceiver, and connected to the output connector with a short piece of coax cable.

Routing of cables all cables located on the ground reference plane (input, output, or inter-connect) should be run (and taped) directly on top of the ground plane. This will provide a tight coupling between the cabies and the ground and basically eliminates radiation from the possible ground loops created between the cables and the ground plane.

By following the advice above, a ham-radio operator is on his way to an interference free operation. However, perfect grounding and cabling will not alone cure EMI if the transceiver or amplifier (or both) operate out of linearity or have parasitic problems. There have been several very good articles in QST recently, describing ways of keeping amplifiers operating in linear modes and how to cure parasitics. With a "clean" rig and amplifier, and careful grounding of one's ham station, EMI free operation can be fully enjoyed.

[You won't find Rolf on any of the 2 meter machines **talking about DX** ... you'll have to catch him on the low bands, **working DX!** Rolf's setup includes a Drake TR7, a Henry KW, 40, 20, & 15 meter monobanders, high atop a Rohn 45 in North Raleigh. Rolf is currently designing & building a "poor-man's KW," and is considering submitting that design for publication in QST -- maybe we'll get first crack at it here in the EXCITER!.]

MAKING ANTENNAS PLAY

by Steve Modena AB4EL

Starting with this installment I will demonstrate how to use a noise bridge to design, build and prove a simple resonant antenna with low SWR (no tuner). We will begin with experiments to understand the electrical properties a half wave (or exact multiple) transmission line. A halfwave line will later be used as a periscope to "see" what is happening at the antenna terminals. Coincidently, the following procedure illustrates how to determine the characteristic impedance and velocity factor of an "unknown" piece of coax.

By definition a "bridge" is a device that COMPARES something that is "unknown" against another thing that is "known" and INDICATES whether the "unknown" is equal—or not equal—to the "known." In dealing with antennas and transmissions lines, we are interested in resistance and reactance. A noise bridge has a built-in "resistive known" and a built-in "reactive known." These two "knowns" can be varied (within certain limits) somewhat independently of each other. The external unknown (such as an antenna) is connected to the bridge. We "listen" to the bridge with a receiver.

When the RESISTANCE and REACTANCE dials (Fig. 1) are set to values that DO NOT match the combination of resistance and reactance that the external unknown has, the bridge sends NOISE to the receiver. When the RESISTANCE and REACTANCE dials are set to values that do MATCH the combination of resistance and reactance that the external unknown has, the bridge (suddenly) STOPS sending noise to the receiver.

The noise bridge, connected from its RCVR terminal to a receiver by a VERY SHORT piece of coax, makes QRN on ALL frequencies from 1 to 30 MHz (Fig. 2). After shorting the ANT terminal of the bridge (Fig. 3A: UNKNOWN=SHORT CIRCUIT), the RESISTANCE and REACTANCE knobs were moved back and forth until the noise disappeared (NULL point). Turning the receiver RF gain down and the AF gain up makes it easier to hear the exact null point. The

RESISTANCE knob was at zero ohms and the REACTANCE knob was zero reactance, i.e. centered exactly between the XC (capacitive reactance) and XL (inductive reactance) halves of the dial (Fig. 1). This setting produced a null at ALL frequencies. Unshorting the ANT terminal and putting a 51 ohm resistor across it (Fig. 3B: UNKNOWN=51 ohms resistive), the noise nulled (when silent) at 50 ohms resistance and zero reactance for ALL frequencies. Short circuits and pure resistance have no wavelength effects associated with them.

I plugged a ready-made 50 foot piece of RG-58/U coax feet into the bridge ANT connector and put a 51 ohm resistor across the far end (Fig. 3C). Setting the bridge to 50 ohms and zero reactance and tuning the receiver from 1 to 30 MHz, noise nulls occurred at 6.30, 12.60, 18.90, 25.20 MHz. 6.3 MHz between nulls! FACT: a half wave transmission line (and exact multiples of a half wave) reflects terminal impedance back to the input end.

Shorting the far end of this coax (Fig. 3D), noise nulls occurred at the SAME frequencies (6.30, 12.6, 18.90, 25.20 MHz) when the bridge setting was zero ohms and zero reactance. Putting a 125 ohm resistor at the far end (Fig. 3E), noise nulls occurred at the SAME frequencies when the bridge setting was 125 ohms and zero reactance. CONCLUSIONS: 1) a transmission line (the coax) introduces a wavelength effect, and 2) in effect, the transmission line "disappears" if that transmission line is an exact multiple of an electrical half wave and the load is PURELY resistive. We "see" only the load resistor, even at four half waves distance (i.e., listening at 25.20 MHz)!

The approximately 50 feet of RG-58/U must be a half wave at 6.30 MHz. The formula for a half wave in free space is FEET = (492 x 1.0) / Freq-in-MHz. The "1.0" is the VELOCITY FACTOR of a radio wave in free space (air). Coax isn't free space, so RF travels slower. RG-58 has a VELOCITY FACTOR of 0.66. So now the formula is FEET = (492 x 0.66) / 6.30 MHz = 51.5 feet. My piece of pre-made RG-58/U is exactly 51.163 feet (51 feet 2 inches: FOUR INCHES short of theory!!). Not bad.

Working backward, I could have figured the velocity factor of that coax by rearranging the calculation: Velocity Factor = (51.163 ft x 6.30 MHz)/492 = 0.655 = .66

FIGURE 1

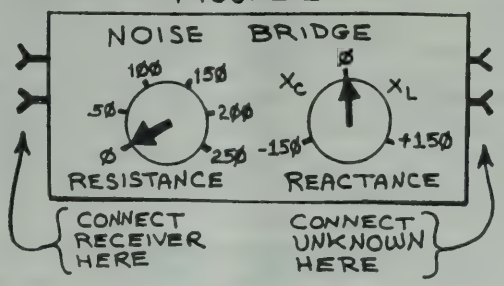


FIGURE 2

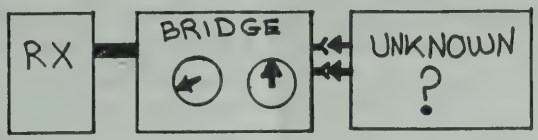


FIGURE 3 a,b

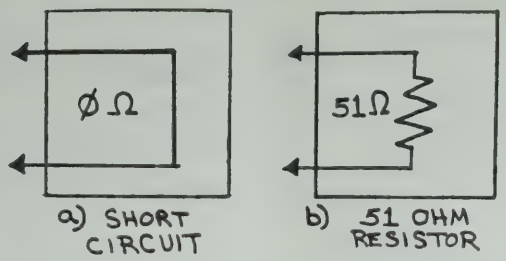
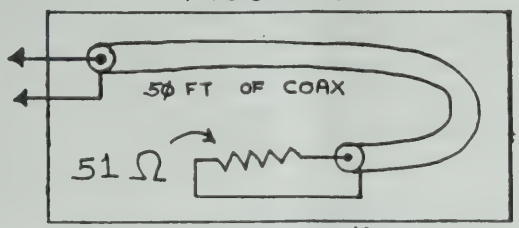
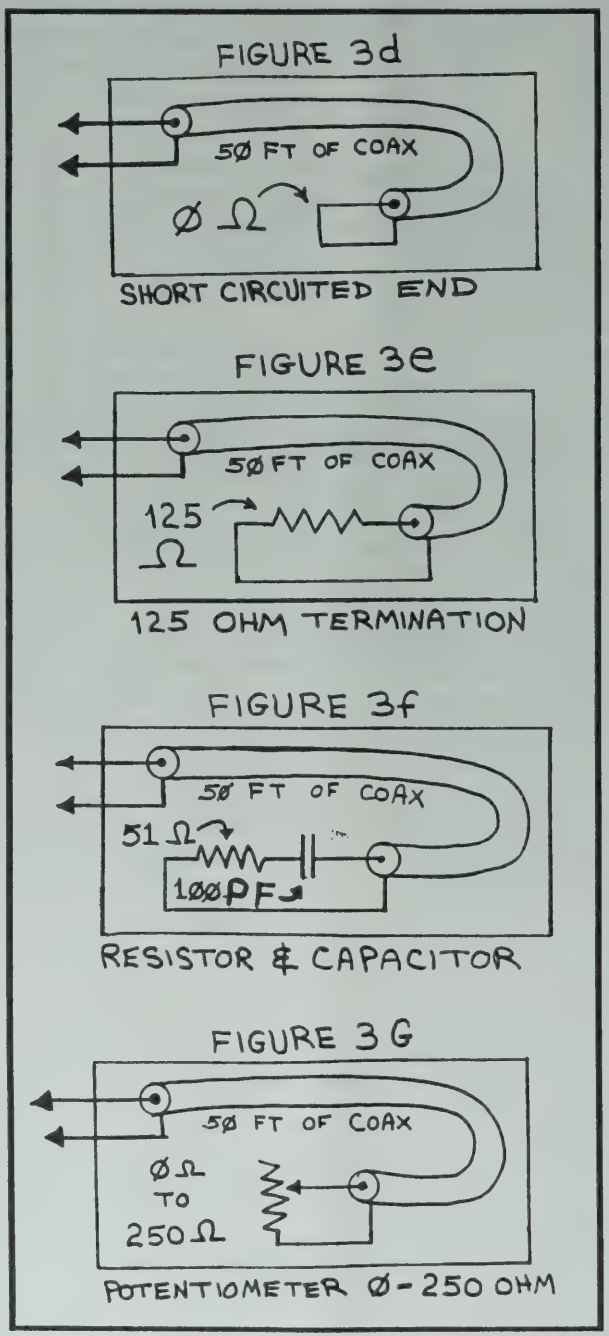


FIGURE 3c



Suppose the coax is not exactly a half wave? I nulled at 9.45, 15.75 and 22.05 MHz (the in-between quarter wave frequencies—did you follow that?). With a 51 ohm terminating resistor, the bridge nulled at 50 ohms resistance and zero reactance at each frequency. BUT if the terminating resistor was 125 ohms, the bridge nulled at 20 ohms and zero reactance. This is a hint that away from an exact half wave, the terminating resistance (impedance) may not necessarily be faithfully reflected back to the input end (though a Smith chart would predict the value).

Real antennas are both resistive and reactive. I soldered a 100 pico-Farad capacitor in series with the 51 ohm resistor (Fig. 3F) and nulled the bridge at 6.30, 12.60, 18.90 and 25.20 MHz. The bridge settings were always 51 ohm resistance and (negative)70 reactance (capacitive). But at 9.45 MHz it was 12 ohms and (positive)25 reactance (inductive); at 15.75 MHz, 22 ohms and (positive)50 reactance; at 22.05 MHz, 32 ohms and off-scale reactance! The point: the half wave points have predictable values, but could you guess what the in-between quarter wave points would be?



Not easily. Scanning smaller intervals between half wave frequencies showed the resistance and reactance values moving around a lot. I won't explain this "wandering" right now (hint: a Smith Chart could explain this).

With a 0-to-200 ohm variable resistor (composition-type potentiometer) connected to the far end of the transmission line (Fig. 3G), we can determine the CHARACTERISTIC IMPEDANCE of that coax. Tune the receiver to a frequency that is NOT a half-wave frequency (NOT 6.30, 12.60, 18.90,...) and NOT a quarterwave frequency (NOT 9.45, 15.75, 22.05,...). Set the RESISTANCE dial on the noise bridge to 250, and the REACTANCE dial to zero reactance. Now vary the potentiometer through it full range. No noise null occurs.

Move the bridge RESISTANCE dial to 245 ohms (don't touch REACTANCE). Vary the potentiometer. No null. Stepwise move the bridge RESISTANCE dial down another 5 ohms and repeat.

In this case, at 50 ohms RESISTANCE on the bridge, varying the potentiometer will produce a profoundly deep null (complete silence). Remembering the receiver's frequency in case you need to come back, tune up band and down band. There should NO bridge noise at ANY frequency!. If you now measured the

potentiometer's setting with an ohmmeter, it would also show 50 ohms. This coax has a characteristic impedance of 50 ohms.

If the characteristic impedance of the coax had been 72 ohms, then that profound-all frequency null would have occurred when the bridge read 72 ohms resistive-zero reactive AND the potentiometer was set to 72 ohms. (If you really are trying to determine the characteristic impedance of some unmarked coax, you should try settings of 50, 52, 72, 75 and 90 ohms first—why??).

In the next installment I will have built a half wave transmission line (from scratch) for a legal Amateur frequency, using the above technique to know the EXACT half wave frequency of the transmission line. Then I will attach an antenna to the transmission line and, using the noise bridge, discover what that antenna would "look like" to my transmitter. It is not likely to be 50 ohms resistive. Then I will attempt to adjust the antenna or the transmission line or both to achieve a "50 ohm" match. I hope to end up with an SWR under 1.5 the first time RF power is applied. I have not done it yet, so my honor is at stake!

Hams Try County Slammer

Three California hams were recently found guilty of embezzlement of more than $80,000 of San Mateo County's funds. The three, Gary Young (N5DTL), Mike Herbert (WB6JKV), and Wm. Soomann (WB6UVO) were responsible for ordering and maintaining communications equipment for the various county agencies.

Apparently, no one questioned their orders for ham gear included on official purchase orders over the past 8 years. They went too far, however, when they ordered two expensive Motorola UHF repeaters, crystalled for use in the ham bands. Two of the three are now behind bars, and the third (who co-operated with authorities) was ordered to a Sherriff's Work Program. All three are paying restitution ...

(facts de W5YI Report 4/15/89)

Congrats to Matt Reynolds, KB2ACE/AG!!

VHF/UHF SIG REPORT

The April meeting of the RARS VHF-UFH SIG was held thursday 13 Apr 89 at the home of WA4MJF, et al. Attending were WA4PEN, W7KXB (another RARS recruit thru this SIG), N4PNO, N4UOE, AB4FY, KM4BU, WD4MYM, WA4MJF, KB4VYP, and KB4EXL.

Elections were held and WA4PEN was elected Chairman, WA4MJF Vice-Chairman, and KB4EXL Secretary. WA4PEN announced that we have a very nice auto-patch donated that may be useable on more than one of the repeaters. He further reported that:

1) the site on the Dean Whitter building is now ready to occupy.
2.) that the 1&1/4 Meter repeater is now ready,
3.) that the cabinets will have to be brought to UL code with a label attached forID purposes, and
4.) Decision on the type of antenna to use and what ype of feed to use needs to be made.

The concensus was to get the machine up and running with the quickest antenna for the time being. Coordination is going along well. There will be a site survey Saturday the 22nd of April at 0900.

The door prize was won by WD4MYM. Refreshemts were served and social period was held.

The next meeting will be Thursday 11 May 89.

73 de Sherry, KB4EXL

Note: Since the meeting, Ed advised that verbal approval for all the requested repeater, link, and control frequencies have been obtained from SERA.

WK2F advises he will be bringing a dozen or so copies of **W2AC's antenna program** to the May meeting. If you'd like one, just bring a blank floppy to swap.

'NEW LINE

Bruce Eggers, WA9NEW

PART 97.1(a) CONTINUED

Well here we are back for Chapter 4. You remember Chet and Sam. Chet is at Shelter 2, one of the victims needs insulin, and Chet has established contact with Sam through NCS. Sam is at the Red Cross Chapter house. You might hear:

"Please copy my number 16 Priority, W4ABC, thirteen, Shelter 2, Raleigh, 1238L Nov. 28, going to Medical Supplies Coordinator, Red Cross Chapter House, break for text."

"Go ahead."

"Victim June Jones will need insulin by four this afternoon X-ray Please advise break signature Bob Jones, Shelter Manager"

"QSL 16"

OK, so it's going to take time to write all that out or, for that matter, keystroke it, once packet gets popular enough. But if the job's worth doing, it should be worth doing right. The FIRST time.

If it's serviced properly, both operators have it in writing, both have recorded the other's call, the time of the traffic, and both have it in their station log. If Sam thinks he should, he'll take the time to write the text of the message and the signature on a note pad to give to Joe, the medical supplies coordinator. But the serviced copy stays with the station.

Now, when Joe gets all tied up with higher priority work and the "guy in the blue hat" isn't there anymore, the message is. When, where, what and who are instantly recoverable. And if Sam is really doing a super job, he's filed the messages which require follow-on action separately just so he can check on them before he leaves. The shelter manager did say, "Please advise."

If you're not sure how to pass traffic, get involved in the NTS nets. Read the operating manual. Ask for an informal with K4NLK after the PCTN on 88 at 9 PM. Give me a call. But don't just sit back and wait for the next time and then use the same excuse again.

Next month: Logs and Message Forms.

VE REPORT

March 30, 1989. Six RARS VEs were present at the McKimmon Center of NCSU to administer the "final exam" at the Ken Lisenbe Memorial Novice / Tech Class sponsored by RARS. The following folks will be receiving their NEW licenses shortly:

Elizabeth Barham, Tech
Lisa Walker, Tech
Stephen Blackwelder, Tech + 3B
Michael J. Gingell, Tech + 3B
Kenneth D. White, Tech + 3B
Thomas Fonicello, Tech
Robert J. Rinn, Tech
Charles Payne, Tech
Ken Barnhouse, Tech
William Hale, Tech
Johnny Barbour, Tech
Richard Yost, Tech
Sam Johnson, Novice
David Gingell, Novice

Additionally, Annette Rogers KC4AQH, upgraded from Novice to Tech, and passed 3B as well.

It was certainly good to see some of the XYLs of RARS members amongst the students and earning their tickets: Annette Rogers (XYL of WB4DRJ), Lisa Walker (XYL of AA4TE), and Elizabeth Barham (XYL of KC4AHG).

RARS VEs were: Chet, KB4LAF; John, AA4MP; & Joe, WA4GIR on code. Mike, AB4CH & Robbie, AB4FY busily grading writtens, and moi, AA4MY, trying to keep the paper flow somewhat controlled.

A total of 49 test elements were administered in 2 hours, and overall success rate by element was 85.7% — well above the 55% national average. The efforts of the RARS Training Group lead by N4BYO were once again plainly visible. (Note to N4BYO — one of the attendees holds a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering, and commented afterwards that he was very impressed with the classes!)

WAVE GROUP FOLDS!

Raleigh's "other" VE group, the Wake Area Volunteer Examiners (WAVE), has apparently folded. John Johnson, WM4P who lead the group, said that he had worked the exams for several years, and it was simply time to move on to other things.

I'd like to extend my personal "Thank you," as well as thanks from the Triangle area hams to WM4P and WAVE for providing exams here in the Raleigh Area. The RARS VE effort is not even 2 years old: we're the new kids on the block. Many, many area ham's CSCEs (including mine!) show WM4P's signature — and for his time and dedication and true volunteer spirit, he and the WAVE group have EARNED our thanks & respect.

It goes with out saying that certainly, the WAVE VE's (who are also RARS members) are most welcome to join the ranks of the RARS VE group if they so desire.

Now this turn of events brings up an interesting question: should the RARS VE group "jump in" and assume responsibility for conducting exams during those 4 additional sessions per year (February, May, August & November) that WAVE held?

The RARS VE teams offers exams to the general public 6 times a year. Another two sessions are offered for the convenience of the attendees of the RARS sponsored Novice / Tech Training Classes — that makes 8 "formal" sessions per year.

Reviewing our current schedule, it appears the only real "hole" in our current schedule is between December and April. Otherwise, there is an exam available in Raleigh at least every other month throughout the year.

Should RARS offer tests EVERY MONTH in Raleigh?? Input from all interested club members (and ESPECIALLY RARS VEs (who do the work!) is desired.

****

No Raleigh Exams in May.

June RARS Exam: ARRL VEC!

73 de Vince, AA4MY

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Amateur Radio -- A National Resource

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 17124
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Next RARS Meeting: Wednesday May 3rd, 7:30 PM
RARS meets the first Wednesday of every month.
Raleigh YMCA, 1601 Hillsborough Street
RARS NETS: Nightly 8:00 PM on 146.04/64 -- Tuesdays 7:00 PM on 28.364
Technical Net Saturdays, 8:30 PM on 146.04/64

Events Calendar

May 03	Regular RARS Meeting -- 7:30 PM YMCA, Hillsborough St.
May 11	VHF/UHF SIG Meeting -- contact WA4MJF @ 266-4434
May 17	RARS Advisory Board Meeting -- 7:30 PM YMCA. All members welcome!
May 21	Armed Forces Day. See May QST for Special Event Station listings.
May 27	**HAMFEST!! Durham, NC** w/ Amateur Exams. Contact Pete Goolsby, KY4Y 120 Radcliff Circle, Durham, 27713
May 27/28	CQ WW WPX Contest, CW. See March QST
June 07	Regular RARS Meeting w/ Amateur Exams (ARRL VEC).
June 10	**HAMFEST!! Winston Salem , NC**